

Ex-Aide Says Dodd Tales Were True

The Select Senate Committee on Standards and Conduct began public hearings June 22 into charges by columnists Drew Pearson and Jack Anderson that Connecticut Senator Thomas Dodd had used his position for unethical purposes and that he used campaign funds for his personal use.

The first senate hearing into the doings of a colleague since the McCarthy hearings of 1954 drew a large press turnout.

The first witness, Dodd's former administrative assistant, James E. Boyd, backed up the Pearson-Anderson charges that Dodd had been in frequent communication with Julius Klein, a registered lobbyist for West Germany interests, that he frequently used Klein's suite in a New York City hotel (Essex House), that he entertained West German friends of Klein, including the former foreign minister, Von Brentano, and that Klein had bought \$1,000 worth of tickets to a Dodd fund raising dinner.

On the Pearson-Anderson charge that Dodd received expensive Persian rugs from Klein, Boyd could not peg them down as a Klein gift even though he had been in Dodd's home and seen what he considered to be Persian rugs.

Documents Open to Press

At one point Committee Counsel Ben Fern began reading excerpts from exhibit documents submitted to the committee by Dodd. Previously the committee had ruled out as evidence some 4,000 documents copied and taken from Dodd's office by Boyd. Dodd's lawyer, John F. Sonnett, protested that the reading of the excerpts would distort the meaning of the documents and that "with the press printing only a portion of these documents" there would be articles in the press which would inaccurately report the situation.

Chairman John Stennis stated that "there is a physical problem here," meaning that time would not allow for full readings, but that the press would be free to examine the quoted documents in their entirety later.

The charges which Pearson and Anderson have made against Dodd in their syndicated columns are also the basis for a report which has been brought against the writers.

Klein, a retired Army Reserve

major general, was a Chicago newspaper executive before he engaged in public relations counselling in Washington.

Boyd explained to the committee that he went to Jack Anderson with the Dodd documents because he felt both the Senate and the Justice Department would have felt obligated to inform Dodd about the situation, thus diminishing the chances of successfully exposing the situation in full.

Boyd said he decided to take the matter to the public, and that "the best representative of the public is the press." Regarding his relations with the columnists, Boyd said that "at no time have I or any of those with me ever received a cent of compensation." He undertook the venture at "very heavy financial loss," he declared.

Pearson was at the press table.